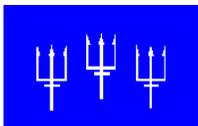
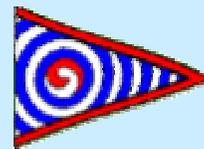


Oct / Nov
2005

WAUKEELOG

Waukegan Sail & Power Squadron
A Unit of the United States Power Squadrons®
Sail and Power Boating
District 20



COMMANDERS COMMENTS

Cdr Paul Green, SN

planned a game based on the fish and otter statues which have adorned the commercial establishments in downtown Racine all summer. But the statues were auctioned off two days before we arrived. Luckily, Lynda had taken pictures of all the statues, and was able to substitute picture posters for the real thing so that the game could proceed. Sunday morning also proved challenging as we determined how many A/C circuits it would take to power two electric skillets and a coffee maker (and a hair dryer). With everything hooked up, chef David Zachar prepared a delicious pancake and sausage breakfast for everyone on the dock next to his boat. With Sunday's wind out of the south, we all turned into power boaters for the trip home.

"... please mark your calendar for the District 20 Fall Conference at the Hilton Hotel in Lisle, IL, on the week-end of October 14 – 16..."

Please check out our fall schedule of classes and make sure to take advantage of the opportunity to become a better boater through the many courses we have to offer.

Also, please mark your calendar for the District 20 Fall Conference at the Hilton Hotel in Lisle, IL, on the week-end of October 14 – 16, 2005. And don't forget to sign up for the WSPS General Membership
Continued on page 2

It's late on a Saturday afternoon in mid-September, and I'm sitting in the cockpit of my boat looking out at Lake Michigan on a sunny, cloudless day. The air is so clear that as I look to the south, it appears the tall buildings of Chicago are coming up out of the clear blue waters of the lake some 30 miles to the south. The cool breeze coming off the lake feels like it is starting to feel a bit like fall. Over the next few weeks our fall classes will be in full swing, and those perfect days for a pleasant sail will be harder to come by.

Last weekend we finished our season of squadron cruises with our traditional week-end cruise to Racine, WI. Our cruise captains, Lynda and David Zachar, made sure that we had memories enough to carry us through the winter, until such time as we can begin the process all over again. Lynda learned how flexible and resourceful she can be. Ten people had signed up for the cruise, and 25 showed up. Dinner reservations and food planning for the dock parties turned out to be very challenging. Lynda had also

Inside This Issue:
Commanders Comments
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Happy Birthdays
VSC Program
Senate Bill 786
D/20 Fall Conference
Governing Board Notes

Events

Boating Starts

Thursday, 29 September
Vernon Hills High School

ExCom Meeting

Tuesday, 11 October
Waukegan Harbor Bldg.

D/20 Fall Conference

Fri-Sun, 14-16 October
Hilton, Lisle IL

Boating Starts

Tuesday, 8 November
Libertyville High School

ExCom Meeting

Tuesday, 8 November
Waukegan Harbor Bldg.

Waukeelog Deadline

Tuesday, 15 November
Email: mludtke@rsg.org

General Membership/ Election Dinner

Saturday, 19 November
Location: TBA

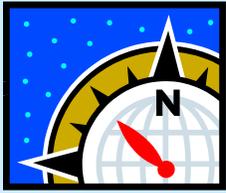
Continued from page 1

meeting on November 19, 2005. This will be our annual officer election meeting, but we will also have an interesting speaker talking about great places to cruise on the Great Lakes. More details of this meeting will come to you soon.

Again, I want to invite all our new members to come to our meetings and find out how much fun it can be getting together with other boaters.

On a more solemn note; our Squadron Educational Officer, Keith Baldwin, sold his boat, *Dolphin*, this past week. I saw him shortly after he signed the paperwork, and it wasn't a pretty sight. I'm sure Keith will spend a lot of time hanging around the harbor in the future, looking for a ride. Keith has worked hard for all of you, so please take pity on him, and offer him that ride occasionally.

WSPS' NEW SENIOR NAVIGATOR



Commander Paul M. Green has been awarded the Rank of Senior Navigator on the National Roster. The Senior Navigator designation indicates that Paul has taken and passed every course the United States Power Squadrons offer. Paul is the first SN in our squadron since Ken Miller achieved this prized designation in 1981. Paul joined the Squadron on 09/09/1987, and has taken at least one class every year.

Congratulations to Paul, you are an inspiration to us all.

D/Lt/C Keith Baldwin, JN
SEO



EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

D/Lt/C Keith Baldwin, JN

Well here it is fall already, and time for us to start thinking about putting the boats to rest for the winter. Some of us will sell our boats, some of us will buy new boats, but all of us will make decisions that will effect our boating for years to come. Several of you are already enrolled in the Seamanship class that is meeting on Wednesdays, while others have opted to take Marine Electronics on Tuesdays. Congratulations to you all, as it will guarantee that you will face the next boating season with more confidence and skill. After the first of the year, we will be offering Piloting and Weather, and I hope that more of you will decide to improve your skill level in these areas.

Did you know that some marine insurance companies extend additional discounts for every course that you complete? This is just one of the many benefits that you receive for your membership and participation in the United States Power Squadrons!

It is also in fall, in October that we, The United States Power Squadrons, celebrate anew the accomplishments of all of you who have enrolled, studied, and successfully completed courses and programs we have offered this past year. On Saturday, October 15, members from all 16 squadrons in our district will meet at the Hilton Hotel in Lisle, IL. There will be parties, some informative seminars, guest speakers, and a dinner to celebrate the educational achievements we have completed this year.

I personally would like to invite

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Cdr Paul Green, SN
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Administrative Officer
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terryhartl@comcast.net

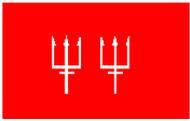
Treasurer
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Lt Michael B Ludtke, AP
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each one of you to attend and experience this social time and fraternity with squadron members from across that state. I suspect that at this conference as at recent conferences, the Waukegan Sail and Power Squadron and its members will be recognized for their achievements and growth as safe educated boaters. I hope you will attend to lend your support and celebrate with them.

BOAT SMART.
BOAT SAFE.



EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Lt/C Julie Sanders, P

"They will be stolen within a month." "Folks will never use them." "You're naive to think an honor system will work." Those were just a sampling of the comments the Waukegan Sail and Power Squadron faced upon launching their new Life Jacket Loaner Program. Conceived from a similar program that Safety Officer Frank Herbst, JN, had seen in Alaska, our program has been such a huge success we wanted to share our story.

On a sunny Sunday afternoon in August, 2004, Frank watched a boat leave the harbor packed with a three-generation family--most without safety vests. All afternoon, Frank worried about the small children he had seen aboard the vessel and he prayed they would safely return. During the never ending hours before the boat's arrival, Frank envisioned the worst and at that moment decided something should be done. Two days later, at the monthly Squadron Bridge meeting, he proposed a PFD loaner program to be sponsored by the Waukegan Sail and Power Squadron. He was met with overwhelming approval and set out to develop a program.

Establishing a budget for the project was somewhat difficult. Thanks to the Boat US Foundation and Mustang Survival, both of which donated 12 youth-sized pfd's, and to USPS for the Popeye graphics, things were off and running with minimal expense. Next, we established a relationship with the two harbors where we wanted to provide the jackets. Both

marinas at Waukegan and North Point were excited with our idea and more than willing to provide a protective space for our display. Several of the squadron members pitched in to design and build a cabinet to house the jackets and pertinent information. Lastly, the signs were made and placed in key spots around the harbors advertising the free program.

The response has been overwhelming. In the first two months the jackets at one harbor alone had been used 113 times! In addition to the original 12 jackets provided at each location, folks have donated even more jackets. A special thanks to Frank Herbst, JN, for conception and persistence; to Oscar Lutz, AP, Cmdr Paul Green, SN, Keith Baldwin, JN, and especially Mark Davenport, P, for building the cabinets; and yours truly for signage.

"You won't believe how many people comment on how wonderful the pfd program is"; "why didn't someone think of this before" "what a fantastic idea" "can I reserve mine in advance" "this is the best thing that's happened around here in a long time" "I can't believe it's free" "I feel so much better knowing my grandchildren have a life jacket that fits them" "thanks Waukegan Sail and Power Squadron".

+++++

As for the District 20 Conference, our hospitality suite will be decorated in a 1957 Sock Hop theme. We are looking for any soda shop or '50s decorations. We would like for the attendees to dress the part if possible--guys in white t-shirts, cuffed jeans, white sox, penny loafers or chuck taylors; gals in poodle skirts (Betty Moran has some we can use), bobby sox, cardigans, pony tails, chiffon scarves, etc. Think "Happy Days."

Happy Birthday!!

October

- 1 Edward Gerstad**
- 16 Helaine Baldwin**
- 22 Matthew Banach**
- 28 Cindy Voorhies**
- 31 Oscar Lutz**
- 31 John Seely**

November

- 9 Thomas Carlton**
- 9 Verena Owen**
- 14 David Zachar**
- 19 Quint Owen**
- 21 Kenneth Miller**
- 21 Peter Owen**
- 22 Samuel Guinta**
- 30 Mitchell Koziol**

If you don't see your special day listed contact Roster Chairman Ellen Ludtke.

**Eludtke@rsg.org
815 678-4300.**



This year we added three new Vessel Examiners to the Vessel Safety Check program. The WSPS team now consists of Andy LeBoeuf, John Josko, Julie Sanders and Mike Ludtke. Together, our squadron completed 66 vessel exams. We also distributed valuable safe boating information, along with information on the USPS educational program.

If you would like to help perform Vessel Exams next year, please contact Mike Ludtke to arrange your Vessel Examiner training.

D/20 FALL CONFERENCE GUEST SPEAKERS



Chief Commander's
Representative

This elite group includes the present Chairman of the National Committee on Nominations, R/C Gerald Grofman, SN from Evanston Sail and Power Squadron who has been asked to represent C/C Les Johnson, SN at our upcoming fall conference.

Many of you know Jerry, and his lovely wife Ilene, but are not aware of the many years of dedicated service he has contributed to our organization. Jerry joined USPS in 1972 and has earned thirty-three (33) merit marks - so far. He served in several capacities at both squadron and district levels through commander, but was principally involved in our education dept. for many years. Jerry was Chairman of the National Piloting Committee as well as the EDR Committee, and was the Education Course Coordinator before joining the Committee on Nominations.

Jerry is a Chicago native and since his retirement from the University of Chicago where he was a Research Technologist divides his time between Chicago and Ft. Myers Beach, FL. Jerry and Ilene have two children, three grandchildren, and two boats, one here and one there, (doesn't everybody?).

We are lucky to have such a knowledgeable and experienced member of USPS in our own district, and look forward to both Jerry and Ilene joining us at the conference and hearing the Chief's message.

Hail to the Chief's Rep



Harry Swieca's
"Adventures in Boating"

Our Fall District Conference will be very exciting. In addition to seminars on the new Boating Course, the new Advanced Piloting course and Instructor Certification, D/20 is privileged to have Mr. Harry Swieca, a fellow boating enthusiast and writer of a weekly column on boating in the Daily Herald as our keynote speaker on Saturday morning.

Harry has over 35 years of boating experience. Over this period he learned to repair small outboard motors and boat related systems. While working as a machine tool service technician he traveled around the world and always had time to check out his passion for boating at local marinas.

In 1981 Harry started his own business, mobile marine electronics installations. He obtained factory training in all types of marine electronics and eventually expanded the business to include mechanical repairs and opened his own full service boat yard.

He eventually sold the business and went to work for the largest boat repair facility in Chicago. His challenge was to build a mechanical department and train its people.

He used this knowledge and experience to follow another passion, writing. He has written articles on marine electronics and boat repair for several publications and currently writes a weekly article for the Daily Herald. He will speak on his "**Adventures in Boating**" at our Fall Conference.

Let's give Harry a Warm D/20 welcome.



WSPS will be hosting a hospitality suite at the D/20 Fall Conference, our theme will be 1957. We'll be decorating the suite like a 1950's Sock Hop. We need your help!

If you can come out, contact Lt/C Julie Sanders to sign-up.

To register for the D/20 Fall Conference at the Hilton in Lisle, see the registration and hotel sign up forms in the most recent Trident.



Senate Bill 786
D/C Richard N. Spurr, SN

The National Operating Committee referred to as O/Com has adopted a position statement relative to Senate bill 786. William E. Husted, SN, Chairman of the Government/Partner Relations Committee, has sent your District commander a letter that includes the "USPS Position Statement". At this time I would like to share his letter with all of you. The USPS Position Statement included in his letter is being circulated to all District 20 members who have a listed e-mail address. Please feel free to share this letter with your squadron officers and other members who might not have an e-mail address. In addition we will place a copy of the position statement only on the D20 website. You might also see this information disseminated through squadron newsletters, meetings or conferences. If you have questions please direct them to your squadron commander who can properly channel your concerns.

R/C Husted writes: O/Com has adopted the following position statement regarding a recently-proposed bill which, if passed, would adversely affect, in the opinion of the USPS leadership, the well-being of USPS members and the general public.

You are encouraged to disseminate this important statement to all your members through your district and squadron newsletters, at meetings and conferences, and by any means you deem appropriate:

USPS Position Statement
Regarding National Weather
Service

Under review by the Committee on
Commerce, Science and
Transportation since 14 April 2005
is Senate bill 786, National

Weather Services Duties Act of 2005, proposed by Sen. Rick Santorum (R-Pa.). It is the position of United States Power Squadrons (USPS) that adoption of this bill, which in essence restricts the National Weather Service to provide only severe weather information, would be detrimental to the safety and well-being of not only boaters, fishermen and other outdoor enthusiasts, but to the general public who rely on a variety of information NWS now furnishes. As an integral component of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), NWS provides weather, hydrologic and climate forecasts and warnings for the U.S., its territories, adjacent waters and oceans for the protection of life and property. With its extensive network of Regional and National Support Centers, NWS is the preferred entity which can provide the scope of observations, forecasts and research at reasonable expense to the American people. Millions of others benefit from NWS data as well. USPS strongly encourages you to oppose S. 786 as individual and concerned citizens.

Approved by the Operating
Committee,
United States Power Squadrons
25 July 2005

You are strongly urged to contact your US Senators **BUT** you are not allowed to mention your affiliation with USPS or your Squadron.

Only the C/C may give permission to have contact with government officials on key matter in the name of USPS.

Before you write any messages we suggest you review the information on the D20 website.

<http://uspsd20.org/SB786/PositionStatement.html>

Richard N. Spurr
D20 Commander

**HIGHLIGHTS OF THE
PORTLAND
GOVERNING BOARD**

7 – 11 SEP 05

Stf/C William M. Bellinger, SN

The GB started promptly at 0930 with uniformed Sea Scouts presenting the colors. Governor Ted Klulongoski sent his regards and declared 10 SEP 05 to be USPS Day in Oregon. There were representatives from many partnering organizations: American Canoe Association, NOAA, Homeland Security, Gateway Productions, MCE Television Network, Canadian PS, Army Corps of Engineers, USCGAux, and the National Safe Boating Council. (We were delighted that these guests were able speak to various committees during the week which eliminated all the Saturday morning orations.)

The Marketing/Public Relations Dept stole the show with some of extremely important news.

- There are 30 second cable-ready USPS Public Service Announcements promotional CDs available to interested squadrons. Just ask.
- MCE TV Network will soon be launching a new cable network channel, 'The Water Channel'. They will air the National Safe Boating Test and other USPS promos.
- *Trailer Boating* magazine will be doing a photo shoot and an article on USPS and our VSC story.
- New online charts are being developed for distribution by Oceangraphics.
- Gateway Productions is working on the second National Safe Boating Test through a Wallop-Beaux grant. This one-hour video will feature more hands-on challenges, Homeland Security advice, using inflatable PFDs, etc. Each

squadron will be receiving a free copy to kick off Safe Boating Week 2006.

There were an abundance of resolutions from districts to vote on:

1. Change the upper limit of members in the Planning Committee from 9 to 11. Passed
2. Roanoke Valley PS changed its name to Smith Mountain Sail and PS. Passed
3. Four members were elected to the GB. Passed
4. Requirement to notify the District Commander when a provisional squadron sends its petition to the NXO. Defeated: On the basis of several recommended changes had been made in the Operations Manual and Squadron Development Manual.
5. and 6. Allow the squadrons to teach the elective courses to the public. Referred back to the Operating Committee until the Annual Meeting for further study.
7. Request to allow family member merit marks to be applied to Senior Member status after changing to Active status. Withdrawn
8. Authorize the D/C to appoint alternate delegate for an absent GB member. Defeated: The vote of the elected GB member belongs to the GB not the district.
9. USPS will create and maintain an easily accessible location for all policy statements of the GB relating to matters concerning outside agencies (partners, MOUs, etc.) Passed
10. Adopt the Blazer with gray or khaki pants to replace the "A" uniform and change the current breast patch by adding the term –"America's Boating Club." Referred to the Flag and Etiquette Committee.
11. Increase dues to \$1.80 for Active members, .90 for Add Active, and .45 for Family

members effective 1 JUN 06. Passed: This same increase will be voted on for a total of five years.

The PlanCom conducted two surveys: one to find out why members stay; another to find out why they leave USPS. These responses are studied to get a better understanding of member likes and dislikes. Once members' desires are ascertained we will be able to steer USPS policies in the right direction. The Strategic Plan is in the process for being revised with a bottoms-up perspective, not a top-down plan. While the Mission and Vision will remain to be set by national, the strategies and action plans will be formulated and implemented based upon the best methods devised locally by squadrons and districts. A new SP section "Financial Stability is being developed. This ultimately led to the Century Fund which is meant to change our dues-based operations to an endowment-based funding.

Member Benefits Chair, R/C Luis Ojeda, is stressing the importance of securing benefits at a local level. He cited one squadron gets free Internet service, 15% off docking, 10% off at a restaurant, and 15% off per hotel night. He suggests that all squadrons can find deals.

The National Treasurer, V/C John Alter, congratulated the Decatur Squadron (D20) for having 100% retention.

The National Secretary, V/C Robert Baldrige, from Baton Rouge, LA, was upbeat in his report, but ended with a vivid heart-felt description of the horrible conditions that currently exist in the Gulf States affected by Hurricane Katrina.

Finance Committee, R/C Joseph

Mesenburg, reported that the new Century Fund has received over \$811,000 in donations to date. All donations are tax deductible and will remain untouched in the fund; only the interest can be used where needed. To increase awareness by explaining the Mission of USPS, the Marketing Department has received \$2,500 to print 20,000 new brochures targeting businesses, communities, and industry leaders. This can go a long way to help generate increased outside funding for squadrons, districts, and national.

Chief Les Johnson is working to bring a new Leadership Training Program for squadron officers. They plan to begin their focus on AOs to give a higher possible level of enlightenment and greater understanding of USPS and leading. The program is a work in progress and will be given a trial test in two districts this year. It will be financed through the Century Fund.

A recent grant will enable a new program: 'USPS Harbor Watch – Train the Trainer' program.

The NXO, V/C Ernie Marshburn, is excited about the new Regional Operations Committee Meetings. OCom meetings are being planned in conjunction with multi-district functions. Our national leaders will be on hand to work with attendees.

National is working to really update their Web site by making all departments and committees standardize their sites. Another project is to provide direct links to affiliates such as West Marine where you can go to their catalog or store and order at a discount!

This is the age of the Internet...e-mail or call HQ with your questions.